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BELORUSSIAN SSR BRICK, LIME, TILE INDUSTRIES IN 1952Promyshlennost' Stroitel'nykh Materialov  
Moscow, 25 Oct 1952V. Isidorov,  
Minister of Constr  
Materials Industry  
Belorussian SSR

Only two small seasonal brick plants remain in the Belorussian SSR. About 80 percent of the brick produced is dried by artificial means. The republic's brick industry is not only meeting the requirements of the republic's builders but also is supplying brick to builders outside the republic.

During the first 9 months of 1952, the brick industry produced 20.4 percent more brick than in the same period of 1951. By the middle of October 1952, the industry had produced 5 million bricks above the 9-month quota.

Despite the success of the brick industry, the variety of building materials is limited. Brick, lime, and tile are the principle building materials supplied to builders. The construction-materials industry has not been producing large quantities of reinforced-concrete products and structures, facing plates, ceramic pipes, ceramic sewer pipes, gypsum products, or heat-insulating materials.

Lately, some efforts have been made by the construction-materials industry to produce building materials other than brick, lime, and tile. The Goryn' Brick Plant has recently produced some samples of MK ceramic facing blocks. This plant now is making preparations to produce these blocks in large quantity.

Besides producing tile, the Minsk Tile Plant No 1 has started producing architectural ceramics and majolica for the facing of building fronts, ceramic wall blocks, and other construction materials.

The republic has two small plants in which white vitrified slabs and furnace tile are produced.

The Vitebsk Construction-Materials Combine has started producing hollow ceramic wall and floor blocks which are good in quality, but they are not being demanded by builders primarily because the planning organizations have been reluctant to convert to these materials.

Construction of several new plants is contemplated. A reinforced-concrete-products plant is to be erected alongside the Minsk Brick Plant No 2. The new plant will be able to get its sand and gravel from a nearby quarry. The estimated capacity of the plant is expected to be 60,000 cubic meters of ready-made products and structures per year. The first part of the plant is expected to be put into operation in 1953.

A ceramic plant will be erected on the site of the present Minsk Brick Plant No 10. Thus, the new enterprise will be able to make use of the drying, heating, power, storage, and rail facilities of the brick plant. This plant is to be built during the new five-year plan and is expected to supply the building projects of the Belorussian SSR annually with 250,000 square meters of front facing blocks and plates, 15,000 tons of sewer pipes, and 200,000 square meters of floor plates.

A lime plant will also be built in the republic. This plant will be completely mechanized and will be built in Klimovichi.

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Plans call for the construction of other new plants during the five-year plan. These plants will produce "penosilikat" [foam-silicate] products, concrete front plates, ceramic sewer pipes, and marble products. A large brick plant, which will produce lime-clay brick by the autoclave method, is expected to be built near the present Minsk Brick Plant No 1.

Although these plants are planned for construction, the Ministry of Construction Materials Industry Belorussian SSR now is faced with the problem of erecting them. Construction of these plants has been entrusted to several trusts subordinate to the Ministry for the Construction of Machine Building Enterprises USSR and to Glavpromstroy (Main Administration for the Construction of Industrial Enterprises) of the Council of Ministers Belorussian SSR. However, some of the construction work and all of the rigging work is being done by nonspecialized workers.

The Ministry of Construction Materials Industry Belorussian SSR formerly had its own separate trust for construction and erection work, but the trust was dissolved 2 years ago. This trust will have to be re-established.

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